

3803 Drexel Court
Louisville, KY 40241

December 9, 2001

Renata B. Hesse
Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Person:

I oppose the proposed Microsoft antitrust settlement for the following reasons.

- (1) Microsoft is guilty of monopolistic practices, yet the settlement encourages the extension of that monopoly into schools—one of the few areas where Microsoft still has non-trivial competition.
- (2) The settlement is not punitive. The cost of providing software is negligible to Microsoft and, in the end, they will probably profit by eventually charging the schools upgrade fees for their “free” software. This is a variation on the scheme they used to corner the spreadsheet, word processing and browser markets.
- (3) The settlement does nothing to correct the wrong created by Microsoft’s criminal actions, and does little to keep them from doing the same things in the future.

Sincerely,


Lee Larson